

**MINUTES**  
**PARKS & TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**May 15, 2025, 5:00 P.M**  
**111 Opera Street, Suite A**

**1) Roll Call of Committee Members**

Committee Members present: Robert Reddish, Larry Williams, Kyle Clem, Jerry Rephan and Rick Dwyer (by phone). Absent: Jessica Mansilla. P&T staff present: Anthony Whittington, Hannah Rice.

**2) Approval of the Agenda**

Larry made a motion to approve the May 15, 2025 agenda. Jerry seconded. Motion carried unanimously

**3) Approval of the Minutes**

Larry made a motion to approve the April 17, 2025 minutes. Kyle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**4) Introduction of Guests:**

**5) New Business**

- a. **Welcome new members:** Thomas introduced himself to the committee.
- b. **Elect New Committee Chair and Co-Chair:** Rick Dwyer was elected Chair and Robert Reddish was elected Co-Chair.
- c. **ARPA Awards:** Anthony shared what awards the city is applying for at the conference this year. Arbor Day for Festival of the Year (11+ years), Velocity Park for Outdoor Facility of the Year (over \$500,000), and Creek Hopping Hot Springs for Natural Resource Program of the Year.
- d. **HSCGT/Stokes Creek Update (Groundbreaking):** Anthony invited all members to attend the groundbreaking for Stoke Creek Greenway Trail, Phase 1 on Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 10 AM.
- e. **Amenities Assessment Assistance:**
- f. **Park Events:**

**6) Parks & Trails Director Reports, Announcements, & Items for Discussion**

- Hannah invited all members to attend the Keep Arkansas Beautiful event this Saturday, April 17, 2025, from 9 am-12 pm, at Rotary Centennial Trailhead.
- The next meeting falls on Juneteenth which is a holiday for city staff. We will cancel June's meeting.

**7) Parks & Trails Advisory Committee Reports, Announcements, & Items for Discussion**

- Jerry shared that the tape has been broken at the Desoto Park bridge. Anthony said he would have his staff add barricades to block off the bridge.
- Kyle said he has been to many other cities in Arkansas and wonders why Hot Springs can't have the same amenities that he sees in those other cities. He and other members agreed to take an assessment of current amenities and recommend to our city board on how to improve things.

**8) Adjournment:**

The Parks and Trails Advisory Committee will hold their next regular meeting on Thursday, July 17, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.